

**THE NORTH HAVEN BOARD OF EDUCATION
5 LINSLEY STREET
NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP
MINUTES**

January 23, 2014

Attendance: Anita Anderson, Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Alicia Clapp, Bryan Bogen, Goldie Adele, Matthew Kerzner, Jennifer Caldwell, Jennifer Cecarelli, Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools, Melinda McKenna, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Kristine Carling, Director of Finance, Operations and Human Resources, and Dana Corriveau, Director of Student Services, and Todd Petronio, Athletic Director.

Mrs. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

1. Executive Session: Board Self Evaluations

Moved: to go into executive session to discuss Board Self Evaluations Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Alicia Clapp
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to allow Kristine Carling to come into Executive Session Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Moved: to come out of executive 7:10 p.m. Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 9
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

The Board of Education came out of Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. and began the Budget Workshop.

2. Budget Workshop

The workshop began with a presentation from Dana Corriveau, Director of Student Services
She reviewed the following:

- **Special Education Summary** – Mrs. Corriveau presented four tables of a snapshot of what is going on in North Haven including the number of Special Education students in North Haven as well as the staffing at each school.
- **School Psychologist Data** – in 2006 the high school's full time school psychologist retired. A full time school psychologist replaced the retirement for two years then in 2008 this school psychologist left the district. In 2008, the Pupil Personnel Coordinator assumed the role of both the High School's school psychologist while also being the Pupil Personnel Coordinator.
- **School Social Worker Update** – In 2011-2012, each elementary school had a full time social worker. In 2012-2013 a reduction in staff occurred, and two social workers were let go, thus two remaining social workers were split between four elementary schools.
- **Intensive Learning Services** – in district program which is currently in operation and have had good success in this program in the first year. This was developed to meet the needs of students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment that is appropriate to each student. All students are members of their assigned grade level classroom or team, and attend lessons and classes with their class as appropriate. They also receive individual or small group interventions through specialized academic instruction, discrete trial instruction, speech and language therapy, behavior management programs, social skills training, assistive technology, and occupational therapy and/or physical therapy.
- **Therapeutic Learning Services :**

Elementary Level – this is to provide a supportive learning community to foster independence and build confidence in social/emotional and academic areas.

Middle School Level – this is to provide a safe, nurturing, supportive experience that fosters individual growth, interpersonal success, and achievement both within and beyond the classroom.

High School Level – this is to create a supportive learning community that educates and prepares students to develop socially, emotionally, and academically by productively facing the expectations of the School Day. TLS fosters personal student success and achievements within and beyond the North Haven High School.

As of January 2014:

Montowese = 4 students (district wide – this program is housed at Montowese)

Middle School = 11 students

High School = 16 students

It is predicted that these programs have kept roughly 10 students in our schools instead of out of district placements.

- **Alternative Education Program** – Mrs. Corriveau presented a summary of the Alternative Education Program. There was an Alternative Education Program which was closed in 2011-2012. She stated that there were six students placed Out of District due to the closing of said Alternative Education Program in 2012-2013, costing the district \$324,406.00
- **Transition Services** – Mrs. Corriveau presented a summary of the transition services.

The Board addressed various questions, and there was further discussion regarding the Special Education services offered in North Haven. When finished Mrs. Anderson asked Mrs. Corriveau what she thought she needed for next year. Mrs. Corriveau replied that she feels she would need something in mental health whether it be an Alternative Education Program, adding school psychologists and social workers, or interventionists in our buildings.

Todd Petronio presented the athletics budget and what he has proposed for the 2014-2015 school year

In addition to his regular budget items, he is also requesting:

- Two additional sports at North Haven Middle School. Cross Country and Outdoor Track (Co-Ed Teams). This comes from requests from parents/citizens who say there are enough sports at the Middle School level.
- Additional Non-Certified Personnel (support staff)

There was further discussion surrounding sports, coaches, and adult supervision in locker rooms for both the male and female athletes. Mrs. Anderson stated that there may be a possibility that cuts may have to happen in athletics and Mr. Petronio should start thinking about that, in case it becomes something that needs to be done.

Mr. Petronio was asked to come back to the next Budget Workshop (January 30, 2014) with an updated proposal to present to the Board, to include items left off this original budget, such as life guards, coaches, supervisors for the locker rooms, etc.

Dr. Cronin presented proposals across the board regarding proposed cuts in the budget in the following areas:

- Teachers
- Stipends
- Transition Stipends
- Custodian Salaries
- Non-Certified Substitutes
- Insurance
- Curriculum Writing
- Staff Development
- Professional Technical Services
- Other Pupil Services
- Repairs and Maintenance
- Legal Services
- Mechanical
- Grounds Supplies
- Repairs and Maintenance
- Transportation
- Athletic Transportation
- Mileage

- Postage
- Printing
- General Liability
- Maintenance Supplies
- Supplies
- Textbooks
- New Equipment
- Replacement Equipment
- Replacement Equipment/Non-Instructional
- Leases
- Paraprofessionals
- Teachers
- Alternative Education Program

The above cuts will bring the 2014-2015 budget to 3.7% increase over the 2013-2014 budget.

Dr. Cronin stated that to bring the 2014-2015 budget to 3.5% increase over the 2013-2014 budget, we will need to reduce costs by approximately \$100,000. In order to do that we will look at the following:

- Revenues from Use of Buildings
- Pension
- Retirements
- Stipends
- Contracts

Mrs. Carling handed out the North Haven's Capital Plan, which also has to be voted on when the 2014-2015 Budget is voted on. She asked the Board of Education to review the handout and they would discuss it at the next Budget Workshop.

Dr. Cronin stated that the next Budget Workshop will be Thursday, January 30, 2014, where the Board will try to pull this all together and vote on a 2014-2015 Budget.

3. Adjournment

Moved: to adjourn at 10:02 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Alicia Clapp

SECOND: Matthew Kerzner

AYE: 9

NAY: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Anderson

Anita Anderson,
Chairman

NO PUBLIC COMMENTS